

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4951
ANSWERED ON:19.04.2001
HIGH QUALITY PROTEIN MAIZE SEEDS
RAMJI MANJHI

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any proposal to provide high quality protein maize seeds to the maize growing farmers of the States and Bihar in particular;
- (b) if so, whether quality protein maize is a good source of protein for malnourished people; and
- (c) if so, the facts thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SRIPAD Y. NAIK)

(a): The Production and distribution of certified seeds to farmers is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments which undertake this through their State Seeds Corporations, Seed Farms, State Department of Agriculture, Cooperatives, etc. The National Seeds Corporation (NSC) and State Farms Corporation of India (SFCI) also supplement the efforts of the State Government. Private sector is also operating through its own network and infrastructure.

The Seed Division of Department of Agriculture & Cooperation, Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India received indent of Breeder seed of two cultivars/variety of Quality Protein Maize (QPM) viz; Shakti-1 (10 kgs from NSC) and Shaktima (Female parent 8 kgs and Male parent 4 kgs) from Government of Rajasthan for supply in Kharif-2002 Season for further multiplication into foundation seed and then certified seed. No other States/agencies have indented the Breeder seed of these varieties. None of the States have indicated the availability of these seeds for Kharif-2001 Season.

- (b) & (c): Yes, Sir. The Quality Protein Maize (QPM) cultivars contain;
- (i) 4.07g/16g N Lysine against 1.88g/16g N Lysine in normal maize;
 - (ii) 0.92g/16g N Tryptophan as against 0.35g/16g N Tryptophan in normal maize.